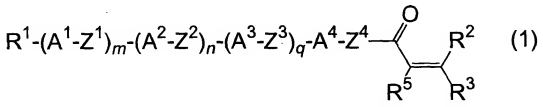
ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Provided is a liquid-crystalline, polymerizable vinyl ketone compound of formula (1):



(1)

Preferably, R^1 is hydrogen, halogen, -CN, $-CF_3$, $-CF_2H$, $-CFH_2$, $-OCF_3$, $-OCF_2H$, or alkyl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl or alkenyl having from 1 to 10 carbon atoms; R^2, R^3 and R^5 are hydrogen; A^1 to A^4 are independently 1,4-cyclohexylene, 1,4-cyclohexenylene or 1,4-phenylene where any hydrogen may be substituted with halogen; Z^1 to Z^3 are independently a single bond, $-(CH_2)_2-$, -CH=CH-, -CF=CF-, $-OCF_2-$ or $-CF_2O-$; Z^4 is a single bond, $-(CH_2)_3-$ or $-(CH_2)_4-$; m, n and q are independently 0, 1 or 2. The uppermost temperature of the liquid crystalline phase of the compound is high, and the compound has good compatibility with other compounds and has the necessary characteristics such as optical anisotropy. Also provided are a polymer having many good characteristics of transparency, mechanical strength, coatability, solubility, crystallinity, shrinkage, water permeability, water absorption, melting point, glass transition point, clearing point and chemical resistance; an optically-anisotropic material of the polymer; a liquid-crystal display device that comprises the polymer; and a method for producing the liquid-crystalline compound.